

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Mrs. Ida Hendricks Walnut Grove
Ala.*

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Warrior River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Harmony Baptist Church, Blount Co., Ala.,

October 19th, 20th and 21st, 1888.

OFFICERS.

ALLEN DORMAN,..... Moderator.
S. J. COX,,..... Clerk.
J. D. HENDRICKS,..... Treasurer.

*The next session will be held with Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, on
Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1889.*

MINUTES.

The Warrior River Association convened with Harmony Baptist church, October 19th, 1888.

Introductory sermon by Elder J. D. Pettit. Text: Eph. 4th ch., 3d and 13th v.

After refreshments, the Association was called to order by T. B. Goin.

Elected A. Dorman, Moderator *pro tem.*, and S. J. Cox, Clerk *pro tem.*

Letters were read by V. H. Dean, P. G. Alldredge and H. W. Head. Enrolled messengers and churches, viz:

Brooksville—J. Jones, J. Deaver and P. G. Alldredge.

Shoal Creek—B. B. Murphree, N. P. Clark and J. A. King.

Big Warrior—Joel Marsh and J. A. Harden.

Macedonia—J. L. Cox, Y. B. Rhodes, J. W. Roberts and A. J. McCorley.

Dry Creek—J. M. Pass and H. Marsh.

Mt. Tabor—J. Ratliff, S. J. Cox, J. H. Dunlap and J. W. Ratliff.

Liberty Hill—J. W. Bryan, W. C. Chambers and W. H. Taylor.

Harmony—W. L. Ellison, A. Dorman, J. C. Harris, A. F. Whitley and Tapley Stephens.

Mt. Carmel—J. T. Blaylock, J. P. Bellew and W. R. Jourdan.

Antioch—J. D. Hendricks, J. P. Smith and J. P. Campbell.

Austin Creek—E. K. Head, D. M. Fowler, P. M. Adams and A. L. Pass.

Mt. Pleasant—Letter.

Sardis—D. P. Carr, W. Z. Davis and S. L. Rogers.

New Prospect—W. B. Debter and Henry Wilson.

Mt. Pisgah—W. J. Harris, W. A. Alexander and J. C. Buckner.

Bethel—R. M. Holmes, W. B. Sanders and J. N. Holmes.

Liberty—G. H. Mitchell, G. B. Carnes, I. F. Stephens, J. Dobb and T. H. Dickerson.

White Plains—No messengers.

PETITIONARY CHURCHES.

Blountsville—W. M. Cole and H. W. Head.

Pine Grove—J. W. Crumbley, J. W. Roberts and L. T. Chitwood.

The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to messengers from new churches in behalf of the body.

Enrolled visiting ministers, viz: Elders W. L. Casey and J. Brown.

Enrolled Correspondence, viz: Eld. R. W. Inzer, from Canaan; H. C. McBrayer, from Cahaba Valley; Elders J. D. Pettit, W. Y.

Adams and V. H. Dean; also, W. L. Culberson and Ollie Steele, from Etowah.

Appointed committees, viz:

On Devotion—R. Holmes, Wm. Harris and the Deacons of Harmony church.

On Deceased Ministers—E. K. Head, J. Ratliff and J. W. Crumbley.

Sabbath Schools—S. J. Cox, H. W. Head and D. P. Carr.

Nominations—W. B. Sanders, P. G. Alldredge and W. I. Ellison.

Missions—W. M. Cole, J. D. Hendricks and J. C. Buckner.

Finance—I. T. Stephens, W. L. Ellison and Wm. Harris.

Education—P. M. Adams, John Cox and J. W. Ratliff.

Temperance—J. P. Smith, J. P. Campbell and George Mitchell.

Made Temperance report special order for Saturday morning.

Prayer by Elder V. H. Dean.

Adjourned until Saturday morning.

Body met Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, the Moderator in the chair. Prayer by Eld. R. W. Inzer.

Read and approved Minutes of first day.

Adopted Treasurer's report:

J. D. HENDRICKS, Treasurer,

In account with Association to October 20, 1888.

DR.

To Minute fund last Association	\$ 37 50
To collections from churches.....	65 95
To collections last Association (Sunday).....	11 35
To collections from other sources.....	4 50

Total.....	\$119 30
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CR.

By amount paid W. H. Jones, late Clerk.....	37 50
By amount sent W. B. Crumpton	11 35
By amount paid J. A. May, Missions in our bounds.....	70 45

Total.....	\$119 30
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J. D. HENDRICKS, Treasurer W. R. Association.

Appointed correspondence, viz.:

To Etowah—D. P. Carr, A. Dorman, J. D. Hendricks and J. P. Campbell.

Sulphur Springs—J. M. Pass, I. T. Stephens, L. T. Chitwood, J. Ratliff and D. M. Fowler.

Cullman—James Holmes, H. W. Head and P. M. Adams.

Canaan—J. D. Hendricks, J. C. Buckner, J. C. Harris and S. J. Cox.

Cababa Valley—A. Dorman, W. J. Harris and S. J. Cox.

A motion to open correspondence with Marshall Association was carried: J. L. Cox, Y. B. Rhodes and J. T. Deaver, messengers.

Adopted report of Executive Committee:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your committee beg leave to report: That we met at Bethel church and elected Brethren A. F. Whitley, Chairman, and P. G. Alldredge, Secretary. Adjourned.

Met third Saturday in May at Mt. Pleasant, pursuant to adjournment. Elected Elder A. Dorman, with a salary of \$25 per month, as missionary to the destitute portions of the Association. Ordered, that the chairman confer with Bro. Dorman, and in the event he failed to accept, to extend the proposition to Eld. J. A. May. Adjourned.

Met at Antioch on third Saturday in July, pursuant to adjournment. Elected Bro. May at salary set for Bro. Dorman, as Elder A. Dorman failed to accept.

Met yesterday, the 19th inst. Received and adopted the report of Bro. May, which report follows this. Ordered Treasurer to pay amount on hand to Bro. May, as part payment for his services.

We take advantage of the present opportunity to commend most heartily the efficient services of Bro. May as a missionary. See his report.

A. F. WHITLEY, Ch'n.

The report of J. A. May, missionary of Warrior River Association, for three months' work, ending October 19th, 1888, was read, as follows:

Sermons preached.....	85
Lectures delivered.....	42
Religious calls.....	87
Prayers in families.....	85
Miles traveled.....	724
Days worked.....	89
Baptized.....	14
Churches organized.....	1
Received by letter.....	14
Received for baptism.....	23
Churches visited.....	12
Sunday schools addressed.....	13
Prayer meetings held.....	25

I find the field of labor a wide one. Our own people need indoctrinating, and others need the truth as it is in Christ. We should be as zealous in preaching the Gospel in communities occupied by other denominations, as elsewhere. The young especially should be taught, if we would insure our future success.

Respectfully submitted, J. A. MAY.

Appointed I. T. Stephens, W. M. Cole, J. Ratliff, E. K. Head and J. P. Campbell, Executive Committee for next Associational year.

Elected Eld. W. M. Cole messenger to Southern Baptist Convention to meet at Memphis, Tenn. Deferred election of messengers to State Convention until next session.

On motion, took up collection to defray expenses of messenger to Southern Baptist Convention; and if not used for said purpose, to be placed in the treasury subject to the order of the Executive Committee.

Made report of committee on Revision of Constitution special order for 1:30 o'clock P. M.

Adopted report on Temperance:

Your committee on Temperance reports:

That the intemperate use of ardent spirits is one of the most potent factors in the hands of the great adversary of man, in leading the young men of our country into the paths of immorality; we find further, that the use of ardent spirits often brings trouble into the church of the living God.

We depurate the lethargy of our churches in trying to eradicate this pest (ardent spirits) from among us. Our profession declares to the world that we are uncompromising enemies to this grim monster; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we request that all ministers having charge of churches in the bounds of this Association preach at least one sermon to each church once a year, on the subject of temperance.

And be it resolved by this body, That she request each church to put forth all her energies and scriptural teachings to drive this foe from among us.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES P. SMITH, Ch'n.

Adjourned to 1:30 o'clock P. M.

Preaching by Elder R. W. Inzer. Text, 1 Cor. 3: 11.
Refreshments.

Resumed business on time.

Suspended regular order of business and granted Shoal Creek church a letter of dismissal.

Received and adopted report of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution, and discharged committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

We, your committee on revision of Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, beg leave to report the result of our labors, which you will find in the accompanying draft and which we respectfully submit to your intelligent consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. HOLMES, Ch'n.

(See amended constitution, appendix "A.")

Report of committee on Deceased Ministers, adopted.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee reports that we feel thankful to God for his infinite mercy in sparing the lives of all ministers belonging to our body, during the past Associational year.

Respectfully submitted,

E. K. HEAD, Ch'n.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your committee on Missions find, by examining the statistical report of the Southern Baptist Convention, that we have 287 missionaries at work under the direction of the Board, and that they have done a great

work during the past year. They have supplied 1,114 churches, baptized 4,857 converts, and received by letter 2,639, making a total addition of 7,496 members. They have organized 431 Sabbath-schools, with 17,240 pupils. They have organized 306 churches, built sixty-four church houses, and have distributed 4,754,000 Sunday-school publications at a cost of \$41,154.15, and for Home Mission work \$89,177.32; for houses of worship built \$54,668.00, and for Sabbath-school publication society \$34,478, making a total of \$178,953.32. We learn from good authority that there are now about 9,000 converts waiting baptism in Cuba.

We find that we have in the United States 2,732,570 Baptists, and they gave last year \$7,876,474, and only \$634,127 of this amount was given to Foreign Mission work.

We find that the Baptists of the United States furnished one ninth of the missionary money that was used last year, and one tenth of the missionaries; and the result was that God gave half the converts to the Baptist church. Our Association has been supplied this season for three months by Elder J. A. May, for which we have paid him \$70.45, and we have sent off for Foreign Missions \$11.35.

Now, brethren, we feel that our Association is able to pay more money for Foreign Missions, and that she is able to keep a good man in her limits for more than three months, and we feel that it is our duty to do these things, when we realize that God has so graciously blessed us in our efforts. We would earnestly request that each church make an earnest effort to do more the next year than they have in the past, and we feel assured that God will bless us.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. HENDRICKS.

Adopted.

The report on Sunday Schools was made the special order for Sunday morning at 9 o'clock.

The report on nominations was adopted, as follows:

Elder W. M. Cole to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association; J. P. Smith, alternate; missionary sermon, E. Bowermon; Sunday school address, G. B. Carnes.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. SANDERS, Ch'n.

Report of the committee on Finance was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	Minutes.	State Missions.	Foreign Missions.
White Plains	\$ 2 00	\$. . .	\$. . .
Blountsville	90	3 00	3 00
Sardis	1 00	1 55	1 00
Macedonia	1 15		
Mt. Pisgah	1 50	1 50	
Bethel	50		
Shoal Creek	50		
Brooksville	75		
Pine Grove	50		
Liberty	2 00		
New Prospect	50		
Dry Creek	50	50	
Mt. Tabor	1 50	3 40	
Liberty Hill	1 20	5 00	
Harmony	1 85	5 25	
Mt. Carmel	1 40		
Antioch	1 50	1 00	
Anslin Creek	1 20	2 00	4 00
Friendship	1 35		
Mt. Pleasant	1 00		
Contributions	2 60		
Total	\$25 40	\$23 20	\$ 8 00

To defray expenses of W. M. Cole to Southern Baptist Convention, \$9.35.

Respectfully submitted,

I. T. STEPHENS, Ch'n.

The Treasurer was instructed to pay J. A. May \$4.55, balance due for mission work.

The report on Education was adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your committee on Education report that our denomination is becoming aroused to this interest, but are sorry to say that we have no high school under the fostering care and direction of our Association, but we take pleasure in recommending the Howard College, located near Birmingham, Ala., as the place for educating our young men, and the Judson Institute, located at Marion, Ala., as the place for training our girls. We find high schools in this and adjoining counties which we take pleasure in recommending.

Respectfully submitted,

P. M. ADAMS, Ch'n.

Mt. Pleasant church letter was taken from the table, and on motion, the same was returned to the messengers of said church on the ground that said church had violated a resolution passed by the Association in 1887, by calling a pastor from a church considered out of order by this Association. (See Res.)

Heard written communication from Friendship church, and advised the call of a council from the various churches.

Appropriated \$20.40 for the publication and distribution of minutes, and \$5 for services of the Clerk.

Prayer by Elder W. Y. Adams. Adjourned to 9 o'clock Sunday morning.

SUNDAY MORNING.

The Association met at the appointed time. Prayer by T. B. Goin.

Took up collection for Elder J. Y. Bayne to the amount of \$7.35.

The report on Sunday Schools was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sunday Schools are sorry to report that there are very few Sunday schools in our Association, for the reason that our denomination is not fully aroused upon this subject. We would urge upon our messengers the importance of Sunday schools, and request that each church make an effort, an earnest effort, to organize Sunday schools in all the churches, and report the same at the next Association. Since this is a practical church duty, let us not neglect such a moral and religious influence as may be brought to bear upon the youth of our land.

Respectfully submitted,

S. J. Cox, Ch'n.

The committee on Redistricting the Association reported as follows:

REPORT OF REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE.

FIRST UNION DISTRICT.

SECOND UNION DISTRICT.

White Plains.	Antioch.
Big Warrior.	Brooksville.
Mt. Tabor.	New Prospect.
Blountsville.	Macedonia.
Dry Creek.	Bethel.
Austin Creek.	Sardis.
Liberty Hill.	Harmony.
Pine Grove.	Mt. Pisgah.
Liberty.	
Mt. Carmel.	

Respectfully submitted,

P. G. ALLDREDGE, Ch'n.

Adopted as reported.

Union meeting for the first district was set to meet with Austin Creek on Friday before the first Sunday in August, 1889. Union for the second district on Friday before the fifth Sunday in July, 1889, to meet with Harmony church.

Preaching at 11 o'clock by Elder R. W. Inzer from Isaiah 60:3, followed by Elder G. B. Wade.

A collection to the amount of \$11.85 for foreign missions was taken up.

Adjourned for refreshments.

Resumed business at 1:30 P. M. Prayer by the Moderator.

The report on Ministerial Education was received and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your committee would report that we find nothing contributed for ministerial education, while we find several young men in the bounds of our Association who are preaching and would be greatly benefited by a little help, that they might the more efficiently study the word of God to the end that they might do greater good.

Respectfully submitted,

P. M. ADAMS Ch'n.

J. D. Hendricks was elected Treasurer for the ensuing associational year.

The following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to Harmony church, the community and surrounding vicinity, for the extension of kind hospitalities during the session.

Preaching Saturday at 5 P. M. by Elder J. Brown. Text, James 1:27.

Adopted the minutes and adjourned to meet with Mt. Pisgah on Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1889.

ALLEN DORMAN, Moderator.

S. J. Cox, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

E. P. Patterson.	A. Dorman, Balm, Ala.
J. C. Buckner, Lowery, Ala.	E. M. Bowerman, Blountsville, Ala.
W. M. Cole, Blountsville.	James Fields, Blountsville.
J. W. Crumbley, Anderton.	Clark Chambers, Liberty.

LICENTIATES.

W. J. Right, Arab, Ala.	R. P. Posey, Anderton, Ala.
G. Shaw, Little Warrior.	G. B. Carnes, Lowery.
T. B. Goin, Balm.	E. Hatley, Ogee.
J. H. Wadsworth, Ogee.	John Cox, Blount Springs.
J. H. Dunlap, Gum Spring.	S. J. Cox, Walnut Grove.

APPENDIX A.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WARRIOR RIVER ASSOCIATION.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in the union, and also of all ordained ministers who are in good standing in their own churches; provided such churches are members of this Association, and shall be known as the Warrior River Baptist Association.

2. Each church shall send a letter to the Association by its messengers, giving the number baptized, received and dismissed by letter, excluded, restored or died during the Associational year, total membership in fellowship, time of monthly meeting, together with contributions for Minutes and other purposes.

3. This Association shall be considered merely an advisory council, claiming no authority over the rights and privileges of the individual churches, nor constituting itself an ecclesiastical court to sit in judgment on church difficulties. It is agreed, however, that this Association may appoint a committee of the body for the purpose of reconciling church differences, provided such interference is asked by such confused church, or a part of a church. And it is further agreed that this Association shall have the right to withdraw fellowship from any church that departs from the faith and order of the Gospel.

4. Each church shall be entitled to send three messengers to this Association, and one additional messenger for every twenty-five after the first fifty members; and should any church fail to represent herself, she shall state the reason for such failure in her next letter to the Association.

5. Any Baptist church may be admitted into this Association by sending a petitionary letter and messengers. If upon investigation she is found to be orthodox and orderly, the Moderator shall extend her messengers the right hand of fellowship.

6. This Association shall elect, annually, from the body a Moderator and Clerk. The Moderator shall preside over the deliberations, preserve order, and see that the rules of decorum are faithfully carried out by the members, decide all questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the body, and give the casting vote when the Association is equally divided. The Clerk shall faithfully record all the proceedings of the body, and superintend the publication and distribution of the Minutes among the churches.

7. This Association may adopt a plan for raising funds by voluntary contributions to defray the expenses of the Association, for supplying destitute churches and settlements in her bounds with the preaching of the gospel, and for any other purpose which she may deem proper, leaving every church member free to contribute as he shall purpose in his heart. All funds raised thus shall be placed in the hands of the Treasurer, who shall be accountable for the same to the Association, and shall disburse it as the Association may direct.

8. This Association adopts the declaration of faith as published in Pendleton's Church Manual, and Mell's Parliamentary Practice Manual as its exponent of parliamentary law.

9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote, except in case of an alteration of, or an amendment to, this Constitution.

10. This Association shall elect, annually, one of her ministers to preach the introductory sermon, and one to preach on the subject of missions.

11. The Minutes shall be read and approved by the body, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

12. This Constitution may be altered or amended by an affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present, provided the alteration or amendment has been proposed at a previous meeting of the Association.

R. M. HOLMES,
W. B. SAUNDERS,
P. G. ALLDREDGE,

Com. on Revision of Constitution, Etc.

STATISTICS OF WARRIOR RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR 1888.



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